

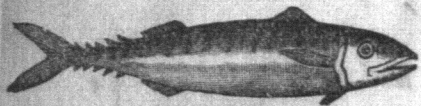
April 2.

CAPT. JACOBS ON DECK AGAIN.

Lands First Fare of 15 Bbls.
Fresh Mackerel.

AT FORTRESS MONROE SATURDAY

Reports Fish in Plenty but
Weather Too Bad to Set Seines.



Sch. A. M. Nicholson, Capt. Solomon Jacobs, of this port, arrived at Fortress Monroe, Virginia, on Saturday with the first mackerel catch of the season.

Capt. Jacobs had 15 barrels of small fresh mackerel, about 3000 fish in count. They were taken out at William Baulch's wharf and from there shipped by fast freight to New York, being consigned to George T. Moon of Fulton Market, and arrived there at 11 o'clock this forenoon. The fish weighed a pound apiece.

The fish were caught Saturday 40 miles east of Cape Henry. Capt. Jacobs reports seeing lots of fish but the weather had been so bad that there was little chance to catch them. He also reports that there were no other vessels there when he made his catch.

So once more Capt. Jacobs wins the honor of landing the first trip of mackerel of the season, an honor he has gained so many times that he has lost count of the number.

Only five seiners have sailed to date, and as Capt. Jacobs has the run of the fish and no other seiners were there, he has a grand chance of landing another trip before any of the others get on them.

The fish sold for 20 cents each.

After landing his fare on the wharf, Capt. Jacobs did not wait a minute but hustled to sea again.

The arrival of the Nicholson at Fortress Monroe Saturday evening is the earliest arrival of fresh mackerel for nine years. In 1897, Capt. Jacobs, then in sch. Ethel B. Jacobs, landed 100 barrels of fresh mackerel at New York on March 29. On but very few occasions since the southern mackerel fish has been prosecuted has the first fare been landed in March, so this last fare of Capt. Jacobs' will be counted among the earliest catches on record.

Last year also, Capt. Jacobs had the honor of landing the first trip of fresh mackerel, arriving at Fortress Monroe April 10 with 34 barrels of large fish.

The TIMES received the telegram announcing Capt. Jacobs arrival late Saturday night. Realizing that the public were greatly interested in learning of the arrival of the first trip of mackerel and always looked to the TIMES for its news of the same, a TIMES representative, on Sunday morning posted the information of the arrival of Capt. Jacobs on the bulletin board of the Board of Trade. The TIMES also had the pleasure of informing Capt. Jacobs' family of his arrival with the first fare.

The news quickly spread, the bulletin board and its good news being read by hundreds and soon, it was known all over town that "Capt. Sol was in with the first trip."

April 2

BUSINESS COMMENCED.

Gorton-Pew Fisheries Co.
Start Operations Today.

COMPANY IS INCORPORATED.

Manager Carroll Gives the TIMES
an Extended Interview.

This morning the new consolidation, the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Co., begins business. The firms interested in the consolidation are Gorton & Co., John Pew & Son, David P. Smith & Co. and Reed & Gamage. The combination is the first of its kind ever effected in the history of the fish business here, although such a thing has been talked of for many years.

At the time the consolidation was effected, the TIMES gave at length the reasons for the same and also the aims and purposes of the new concern. Since that time rumors, stories and reports of all kinds have been given wide circulation as to why the company was formed, who was or was not behind it, and the prospect of a great fish war between this concern and the Swifts, who according to some stories were to combine with another of Gloucester's great fish concern and occupy the Butler property at the Fort.

As the news of the combination of the four concerns came as a great surprise to nearly every one, many stories and theories were naturally expected to follow in the wake of the announcement. Naturally, while everybody was more or less excited over the first report, many of the other stories at first gained considerable credence and even those which were not believed made a great amount of talk and gossip. During the past ten days, however, the new has worn off the report of the original consolidation, and people have begun to judge calmly the following stories and rumor and sift them for what truth might lie therein.

While there are now many who actually believe, perhaps, that it is the beginning of a great fight between the Standard Oil and the Swifts for the control of the fish business, the great majority of people are satisfied that the statement in the TIMES of a week ago last Friday told truthfully of the reasons for the organization of the new concern and have also come to the conclusion that a fish war of great magnitude lies wholly in the vivid imagination of some who would have it thus.

Since the first news of the consolidation of the four concerns, the TIMES has been at work to find out all possible about it and has received by the fishing interest in general, and also to learn, if possible, how much truth there was in the stories that have been afloat so broadly. Thus far it has seen or heard nothing to cause it to change its statements, that it was to be a good thing for Gloucester, that it was not formed to buck the Swifts or to drive anybody to the wall, but that it was formed to operate on a broad and liberal policy and to extend the markets for salt codfish and to secure better prices.

April 2

BUSY PLACE.

Higgins & Gifford Company Busy
on New Launches.

Many Crafts Also To Be Altered
and Improved.

The Higgins & Gifford Boat Manufacturing Company's place at present is a very busy spot, the concern having several new launches to build and many gasoline add sailing craft to alter and fit out for the coming season.

They have just completed a large gasoline seineboat for Capt. Davis of Wellfleet which craft will be used for fishing. She is equipped with a 12 horse power engine and proved herself very fast on her trial trip.

They have also just finished for Capt. Cash of Scituate, formerly of sch. Etta Mildred, a gasoline seineboat, in which he will engage in mackerel netting out south this spring. She is a fine, strong built craft, being fitted with a cabin and berths and a galley, also a hold for the fish and ice.

Two gasoline launches of the seineboat model have just been completed for New York parties. These boats will fish out of New York and be equipped for otter trawling along the smooth sands of the New Jersey coast. The trawls they will carry are small, but on the same plan as the otter trawl now carried by the trawler Spray. Another gasoline seineboat is almost ready for Capt. Luce of Vineyard Haven. She will engage in lobstering and later in shore fishing and netting.

The large 60 foot yawl for Capt. Trainor of New York, which has previously been fully described in the TIMES, is about half done and work on her is being pushed. She is a staunch comfortable looking craft and will be finely fitted. There is also under way, to go with her, a gasoline launch tender of pretty design and a captain's gig.

The keel has just been set up for a 35-foot cabin gasoline launch for William Whittemore of New York. She will be of the seineboat type which has become so popular with those wanting good comfortable crafts and fine sea boats. She will be fitted in fine style, with cabin, galley, toilet and all the modern conveniences and will have a 15-horse power Buffalo engine.

Beside all the above new work, the firm has orders for new seineboats for vessels of the mackerel fleet which will keep them busy until June 1. Beside this they have had over 100 seineboats to paint and fix up and put in commission for the vessels of the southern seining fleet.

A large cat boat, owned by New York parties and laid up here during the winter, is to undergo extensive improvements at the hands of this concern. The big launch formerly owned by Capt. Thomas Hodge and now owned up shore is to have a cabin put on with drop windows and other improvements.

Col. Sidney Hedges' gasoline launch, which he uses while at his summer residence at Eastern Point is to be overhauled and have several improvements which will add to its looks and comfort.

The launches of Dr. Timmins, Edward D. Dearborn of Lynn, Dr. McCabe of this city, and many others, are to be overhauled and improved and put in commission.

Beside all this launch work, the concern has stored about a dozen sailing yachts, all of which will be placed in commission and several will undergo alterations and improvements before being put in the water.